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ACTION NEA-11
INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 EUR-12 SS-15 OIC-02 CIAE-00
DODE-00 H-01 IO-15 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 HA-06
PM-09 PA-01 SSM-03 INRE-00 SAL-01 OES-09 ACDA-12
SSN-02 ICAE-00 SP-02 NRC-02 SPRS-02 /116 W
342471 121711Z /41

O 121706Z JUN 81
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4452
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USINT BAGHDAD
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E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: MOPS, MILI, TNUC, PARM, IS, IZ, IT
SUBJECT: REMARKS OF IRAQI AMBASSADOR IN ROME ON ISRAELI RAID
REFS: (A) ROME 14311, (B) ROME 14216 (NOTAL)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY J.L. DATE 9/30/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☒
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

1. IN A JUNE 11 PRESS CONFERENCE IN ROME, IRAQI AMBASSADOR TO ITALY, TAHA AHMED AL DAUD, EXPRESSED SATISFACTION OVER ITALY'S REACTION TO THE ISRAELI RAID. "AS AN AMBASSADOR, I CAN ONLY THANK THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT FOR ALL IT HAS DONE AND IN PARTICULAR, FOR HAVING EXPRESSED ITS DETESTATION OF THE ISRAELI AGGRESSION AND FOR HAVING CHARGED THE ITALIAN AMBASSADOR IN TEL AVIV WITH TRANSMITTING TO THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT THE EXPRESSION OF ITS CONDEMNATION. MY HOPE IS TO SEE THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT -- WHO IS A FRIEND NOT ONLY OF IRAQ BUT OF THE ENTIRE ARAB WORLD -- APPRECIABLY STRENGTHEN ITS EXPRESSIONS OF CONDEMNATION."

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2. AL DAUD WENT ON TO REAFFIRM THE PEACEFUL NATURE OF THE NUCLEAR PLANT, STRESSING THAT IT HAD BEEN INSPECTED BY IAEA AS OPPOSED TO ISRAEL, WHICH HAD NOT EVEN SIGNED THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY. HE STATED THAT IRAQ WOULD CARRY ON ITS NUCLEAR PROGRAM DESPITE ISRAELI INTENTIONS TO HOLD BACK THE ARAB COUNTRIES IN THIS DOMAIN.

3. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION CONCERNING THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE ARAB LEAGUE IN BAGHDAD, AL DAUD TOLD HIS INTERLOCUTORS THAT THEY COULD EXPECT "DECISIONS PERTINENT TO THE CIRCUMSTANCES" IN ORDER TO CONFRONT WITH FIRMNESS NOT ONLY THE AGGRESSION AND EXPANSIONISM OF ISRAEL, BUT ALSO ALL THOSE WHO SUPPORT ISRAEL AND WHO ARM IT.

4. IN CONCLUSION, HE NOTED THAT THE POSSIBILITY

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WAS OPEN FOR "A REVISION OF ARAB WORLD CONTACTS WITH ALL STATES ANT INSTITUTIONS WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO THE STRENGTHENING OF ISRAEL".

5. LATE JUNE 12 EMBASSY RECEIVED WORD THAT DURING THE AFTERNOON FONMIN COLOMBO RECEIVED AT MFA, IN SEPARATE CALLS, THE IRAQI AMBASSADOR AND MOHAMED SABRA, THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ARAB LEAGUE IN ROME (WHO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A DELEGATION OF RESIDENT ARAB AMBASSADORS). BOTH MEN UNDERSCORED FOR COLOMBO THE EXTREME GRAVITY OF THE ISRAELI RAID ANL ITS "INADMISSIBLE NATURE". PAGANELLI

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